

## ***IN THE CLAIMS***

Please amend the claims as follows where a copy of the claims with the amendments delineated are set forth below in accordance with the PTO guidelines. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

1 5. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a G.HS protocol handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:  
establishing an identification for the remote device;  
the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including an identification signal representative of the identification;  
the remote device receiving the request signal;  
the remote device verifying the identification signal; and  
the remote device generating a response signal;  
~~The method of claim 1~~ wherein the identification signal is comprised of a number of bits thereby allowing adjacent device pairs in a cable bundle to have unique identifications.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

2 8. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a G.HS protocol handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:  
establishing an identification for the remote device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including an identification signal representative of the identification;

~~The method of claim 1 further comprising~~ configuring the request signal with differential phase reversals to include the identification signal;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the identification signal; and

the remote device generating a response signal.

3 ~~9.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a G.HS protocol handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing an identification for the remote device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including an identification signal representative of the identification;

~~The method of claim 1 further comprising~~ configuring the request signal with an additional tone to indicate the identification signal;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the identification signal; and

the remote device generating a response signal.

10. (Canceled)

4 ~~11.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;

establishing a local identification corresponding to the local device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including a remote identification signal representative of the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

the remote device generating a response signal including a local identification signal representative of the local identification;

the local device receiving the response signal; and

the local device verifying the local identification signal;

~~The method of claim 10~~ wherein the remote and local identification signals are each comprised of a number of bits thereby allowing adjacent local-remote device pairs in a cable bundle to have unique remote and local identifications.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

5 ~~15.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;

establishing a local identification corresponding to the local device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including a remote identification signal representative of the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

the remote device generating a response signal including a local identification signal representative of the local identification;

the local device receiving the response signal;

the local device verifying the local identification signal;

~~The method of claim 10 further comprising configuring wherein~~ the request and response signals are configured with differential phase reversals to include the remote and local identification signals.

6 ~~16.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;

establishing a local identification corresponding to the local device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including a remote identification signal representative of the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

the remote device generating a response signal including a local identification signal representative of the local identification;

the local device receiving the response signal;

the local device verifying the local identification signal;

~~The method of claim 10 further comprising configuring wherein~~ the request and response signals include with an additional tone to indicate the remote and local identification signals.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

7 ~~19.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;

establishing a local identification corresponding to the local device;

the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including a remote identification signal representative of the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal;

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

the remote device generating a response signal including a local identification signal representative of the local identification;

the local device receiving the response signal;

the local device verifying the local identification signal;

~~The method of claim 10 further comprising separating wherein~~ the local and remote identification signals comprise ~~into~~ three octets within an identification field.

20. (Canceled)

8 21. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:  
establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;  
the remote device transmitting the remote identification to the local device upon an initial communication with the local device after installation of the remote device;  
storing the remote identification for use by the local device in a subsequent communication with the remote device;  
in a subsequent communication, the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including the remote identification;  
the remote device receiving the request signal; and  
the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;  
~~The method of claim 20~~ wherein the remote identification is comprised of a number of bits thereby allowing adjacent device pairs in a cable bundle to have unique identifications.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

9 27. (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:  
establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;  
the remote device transmitting the remote identification to the local device upon an initial communication with the local device after installation of the remote device;  
storing the remote identification for use by the local device in a subsequent communication with the remote device;  
in a subsequent communication, the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal; and

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

~~The method of claim 20 further comprising configuring wherein~~ the request signal includes ~~with~~ differential phase reversals to include the remote identification.

10 ~~28.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device;

the remote device transmitting the remote identification to the local device upon an initial communication with the local device after installation of the remote device;

storing the remote identification for use by the local device in a subsequent communication with the remote device;

in a subsequent communication, the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including the remote identification;

the remote device receiving the request signal; and

the remote device verifying the remote identification signal;

~~The method of claim 20 further comprising configuring wherein~~ the request signal with ~~includes~~ an additional tone to indicate the remote identification.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

11 ~~31.~~ (Currently Amended) A method for performing a handshake session between a local device and a remote device, the method comprising:

establishing a remote identification corresponding to the remote device including the step of ~~The method of claim 20 further comprising~~ separating the remote identification into three octets within an identification field;

the remote device transmitting the remote identification to the local device upon an initial communication with the local device after installation of the remote device;

storing the remote identification for use by the local device in a subsequent communication with the remote device;

in a subsequent communication, the local device generating a request signal to initiate a handshake session, the request signal including the remote identification;  
the remote device receiving the request signal; and  
the remote device verifying the remote identification signal.

Please cancel claims 1-4, 6, 7, 10, 12-14, 17, 18, 20, 22-26, 29, and 30 without prejudice or disclaimer